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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DOE-11 SOE-02 /072 W
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R 021823Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5471
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 02088

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, GW, FR
SUBJECT: FRENCH-GERMAN SUMMIT

REF: PARIS 02186

1. OUR FOREIGN OFFICE WORKING-LEVEL CONTACTS SHARE THE OPINION OF THEIR COLLEAGUE AT THE FRG EMBASSY IN PARIS (REFTEL) THAT LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE CAN BE EXPECTED FROM THE FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT ON FEBRUARY 6 TO 7. THESE SOURCES DESCRIBE THE FORTHCOMING MEETING AS A HIGH-LEVEL STOCKTAKING (BESTANDSAUFNAME) WHICH WILL BE OVERSHADOWED BY THE FRENCH ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

2. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT WILL NONETHELESS BE ACCOMPANIED BY A SIZEABLE SLICE OF HIS CABINET: FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER, FINANCE MINISTER APEL, JUSTICE MINISTER VOGEL, MINISTER OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY MATTHOEFER, CONFIDENTIAL

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AGRICULTURE MINISTER ERTL AND STATE SECRETARY SCHLECHT FROM THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY, REPRESENTING MINISTER LAMBSDORFF, WHO WILL BE IN THE US. BERLIN GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE AS THE SURROGATE MINISTER OF CULTURE (THE FRANCO-GERMAN TREATY CALLS FOR MEETINGS OF MINISTERS OF CULTURE AND SINCE THE FRG HAS NONE IT IS TRADITIONALLY REPRESENTED BY A MINISTER-

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PRESIDENT.)

3. THE ECONOMIC AGENDA (REFTEL) HAS BEEN EXPANDED TO INCLUDE THE CURRENT FISHERIES DISPUTE. IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WILL BE DISCUSSED BY SCHMIDT AND GISCARD:

-- POLITICAL-MILITARY. FRENCH DISARMAMENT INITIATIVE: THE GERMANS WELCOME THE PROSPECT OF RENEWED ACTIVITY BY PARIS IN THIS AREA (THOUGH THERE IS SOME FEELING HERE THAT ELECTIONEERING PLAYS A ROLE). THE FOREIGN OFFICE, HOWEVER, REGARDS THE PROPOSALS AS VAGUE AND IS ANXIOUS TO FIND OUT WHAT THE FRENCH HAVE IN MIND. MBFR AND SALT ARE ALSO ON THE AGENDA.

-- INTERNATIONAL: THE HORN, SOUTHERN AFRICA, PARTICULARLY NAMIBIA, AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

4. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS ARE EXPECTED TO DISCUSS SOME OF THE FOREGOING SUBJECTS AS WELL AS: THE SAHARA CONFLICT, THE LOME AGREEMENT, CYPRUS AND THE EC AND THE CONVENTION ON HOSTAGE TAKING.
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